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DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

THE SECRETARY - ROOM 222

28 FEB 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

RECEIVED

APR 12 1993

Honorable Sam M. Gibbons  
House of Representatives

Honorable Sam M. Gibbons

2.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituents' concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituents to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Haller  
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:  
Notice  
Order  
Discussion paper

cc:  
Chief, PRBureau  
Chief, LM&M Divison  
Docket Files, Room 222  
P&P Branch File (Pink)

CNTL NO - 9300520

DFertig/RShiben:sf/lm:PR  
CONGRESS/9300520

# Congressional

DUE OBC: 2-18-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

## CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM 02/10/93

### LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300520	02/10/93	02/02/93	02/23/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Congressman	Sam Gibbons	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/Lmm 2-10-93			

DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/10/93			

REMARKS:

RECEIVED  
FEB 10 5 26 PM '93  
PRIVATE

WAYS AND MEANS  
COMMITTEE  
(VICE CHAIRMAN)

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
TRADE (CHAIRMAN)  
SOCIAL SECURITY

JOINT COMMITTEE  
ON TAXATION

**SAM M. GIBBONS**

11th DISTRICT, FLORIDA

*Congress of the United States*

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

February 2, 1993

PRB  
92-235  
520  
PLEASE RESPOND TO:

- ☐ HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3376
- ☐ 2002 N. LOIS AVE.  
SUITE 260  
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33607  
TELEPHONE: (813) 870-2101
- ☐ 201 S. KINGS AVE., #6  
BRANDON, FLORIDA 33511  
TELEPHONE: (813) 689-2847

JAN STOORZA  
CHIEF OF STAFF

GREG WONDERS  
FLORIDA OFFICE MANAGER

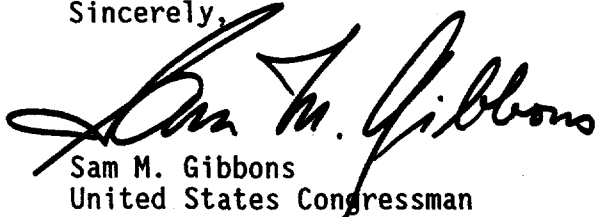
Federal Communications Commission  
Congressional Liaison  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Sir Or Madam:

Enclosed please find copies of the letters I have received from my constituents. I believe you will find their concerns self-explanatory.

I would greatly appreciate your looking into this matter and providing me an appropriate reply at your earliest convenience. Many thanks for your assistance in this regard.

Sincerely,

  
Sam M. Gibbons  
United States Congressman

SMG:n  
Enclosure

FEB 7 1993

15711 Country Lake Dr.  
Tampa, Florida 33624  
January 25, 1993

The Honorable Sam Gibbons  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Gibbons,

I am a resident of your district, and I am an avid R/C model airplane enthusiast. Like thousands of other adult men and women, I have gotten great pleasure from building and flying models for over two years.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for models and increase the risk of accidents.

Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

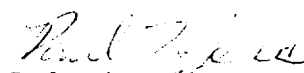
Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes, safety is paramount. The risks that the FCC proposal would bring about would certainly impact human safety and property damage. After all, since these potential users are mobile, the only way we're going to know we have a problem is after we crash!

Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. If a pager or cellular phone experiences interference, the result is a lost message. If a model airplane gets such interference the result is a crash. I am well aware that we modelers don't have the financial clout of telecommunications companies; but surely we are entitled to safely pursue our hobby, as we have for years.

Please help me and hundreds of thousands of others continue the safe enjoyment of our pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal PR Docket 92-235 for the 72 - 76 MHz band. We all need your help urgently because the FCC has a deadline of February 26, 1993 after which it may become more difficult to avoid halting these proposals from going into effect.

Sincerely,

  
Paul Tejera

15711 Country Lake Dr.  
Tampa, Florida 33624  
January 25, 1993

The Honorable Sam Gibbons  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Gibbons,

I am a resident of your district, and I am an avid R/C model airplane enthusiast. Like thousands of other adult men and women, I have gotten great pleasure from building and flying models for over ten years.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for models and increase the risk of accidents.

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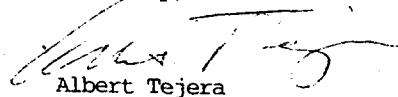
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Please understand that many model airplanes have wing spans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 30 or 40 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and contests where hundreds of operators participate. If a pager or cellular phone experiences interference, the result is a lost message. If a model airplane gets such interference the result is a crash. I am well aware that we modelers don't have the financial clout of telecommunications companies; but surely we are entitled to safely pursue our hobby, as we have for years.

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Sincerely,

  
Albert Tejera

FEB 10 1993

15711 Country Lake Dr.  
Tampa, Florida 33624  
January 25, 1993

The Honorable Sam Gibbons  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Gibbons,

I am a resident of your district, and I am an avid R/C model airplane enthusiast. Like thousands of other adult men and women, I have gotten great pleasure from building and flying models for over two years.

I am very concerned about proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for models and increase the risk of accidents.

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Sincerely,

*Patsy Tejera*  
Patsy Tejera

FEB 11 1993

Wayne N. Smith  
7009 24th Ave. So.  
Tampa, FL 33619

January 25, 1993

Honorable Congressman Sam Gibbons  
Room 2204  
Rayburn Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gibbons,

I am writing you about a proposed rule change under consideration by the F.C.C.. The changes are listed under PR Docket 92-235 scheduled for a vote on February 26.

I have been an avid model airplane enthusiast since my father introduced my brothers and myself to the modeling hobby when I was 9 years old. My father, brothers and I still get together on Sundays for a day of flying and a get together of our families. This is a family oriented hobby that has proven a great joy to myself and my family for over 50 years. My own wife and two children have enjoyed and participated in this hobby. This activity has proven to be one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. In addition to enjoying all the many facets of constructing and flying model aircraft, the fact that my family still gets together every Sunday for a day of flying has kept our family close over the years and been a great source of joy for me.

I am also President of the Tampa Radio Control Aircraft Club. Not only are we a valuable source for the monitoring of the many safety aspects relating to our hobby, but we also are quite active in our community. Every year we are a big participant in the childrens festival at the University of South Florida. We also have "Field Days" at our site for the Boy Scouts, Big Brothers, as well as handicapped and disadvantaged children. Our club is certainly not unique when it comes to community activities and combined with the over 200 clubs located in the state, we are a small but valuable asset to our state. Many of our N.A.S.A. astronauts grew up building model aircraft and many still continue to build and fly radio-controlled aircraft.

The proposed rule change being considered by the F.C.C. will have a profound effect on the continuation of this wonderful hobby of model aviation. Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the F.C.C. wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio frequencies and



cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

Over the years that I have been associated with this radio-controlled hobby, the F.C.C. has classified our use of frequencies as secondary to commercial activities. Due to this fact, the modeling industry and modelers have had to change frequency use numerous times due to the F.C.C. allowing commercial or primary frequency users to compromise or interfere with the frequencies the F.C.C. had given to us. Although the modeling industry, the Academy of Model Aeronautics, the Sport Flyers Association and the modeling members have tried to have the F.C.C. classify our use of the frequencies from secondary to primary, the F.C.C. has failed to act upon this request and has left our frequency use as secondary to primary or commercial use.

This has cost the modeling industry and modeling members millions of dollars over the years in petitioning the F.C.C. for different frequencies, changing the radio controlled equipment, and the cost of all these changes has been at the expense and safety of the modeling community and the spectators that also enjoy this hobby.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders as well as the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the F.C.C., the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be reduced. All of the modeling industry, clubs, the Academy of Model Aeronautics, the Sport Flyers Association, and the modeling enthusiast all share one common concern and that is the safe operation and control of any one of our aircraft.

Please understand that many models have wingspans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 55 pounds and can attain speeds in excess of 200 M.P.H. The models themselves are expensive to build; but to be blunt, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the aircraft. We often fly our models at organized events where hundreds of participants and spectators are present. We need the full use of our entire complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment. The F.C.C. is again seeking to compromise the safety we now have from frequency interference by adding these additional land mobile frequencies.

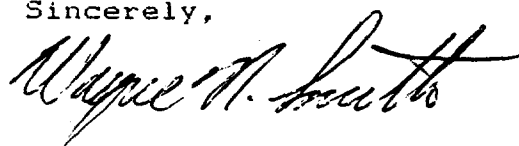
I do not think it wise of the F.C.C. to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers. The F.C.C., in its infinite wisdom, has failed to classify the modeling industry as primary users of these frequencies even though interference caused by primary users, in this case land

mobile radio users, could cause the loss of radio-control to our aircraft which are capable of speeds in excess of 200 M.P.H. and weigh as much as 55 pounds. If the F.C.C. considers the interference to one of our radio-controlled aircraft which is capable of property damage, injury, and even death is secondary to the use of a land mobile radio user such as a pager, beeper, etc. which cannot cause any property damage, injury, etc. then I think our Congressmen and Senators should step in and insure the safety of persons and property of the persons they represent by having the F.C.C. designate our frequency use as primary users and not secondary. The F.C.C. apparently does not view personal and property safety as a primary concern compared to the financial interests of the land mobile users.

This is not to say that the hobby of model aviation does not have financial interests but the industry and the modelers stress safety in the operation of radio-controlled aircraft which other frequency users such as land mobile frequency users do not have to worry about. The hobby of model aviation is indeed a multi-million dollar industry. We have over 10 hobby shops that are supported by modelers in the Tampa Bay area alone. The attendant rise in the cost of radio equipment that can operate safely under the new proposals will result in equipment prices that will be beyond the means of the average modeler. The new proposals will force thousands of modelers out of the hobby with all the attendant losses being suffered by hobby shops, distributors and manufacturers. In these troubled times, we must not allow the collapse of this wonderful hobby which has served us so well with all the outstanding role models and good deeds performed by its participants.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the F.C.C. to carry out its proposals for the 72 - 76 MHz band and to change the status of our use from secondary to primary frequency use thereby insuring that there will not be any frequency interference problems in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wayne M. Smith". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Katherine A. Smith  
7009 24th Ave. So.  
Tampa, FL 33619

January 25, 1993

Honorable Congressman Sam Gibbons  
Room 2204  
Rayburn Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gibbons,

I am writing you about a proposed rule change under consideration by the F.C.C.. The changes are listed under PR Docket 92-235 scheduled for a vote on February 26.

I have been around model aircraft since I was a little child. My father was and still is an avid model airplane enthusiast even though he is over 65 years old. My father, my husband and myself still get together on Sundays for a day of flying and a get together of our families. This is a family oriented hobby that has proven a great joy to myself and my family for over 50 years. My own two children have enjoyed and participated in this hobby. This activity has proven to be one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. In addition to enjoying all the many facets of constructing and flying model aircraft, the fact that my family still gets together every Sunday for a day of flying has kept our family close over the years and been a great source of joy for me. Until recently, I had just assisted my family members but I just finished flying my own radio-controlled aircraft by myself and it is very exhilarating to accomplish this feat. I now know the feeling that my father, husband, son, brother, and cousin have experienced over these years.

I am also a club member of the Tampa Radio Control Aircraft Club. Not only are we a valuable source for the monitoring of the many safety aspects relating to our hobby, but we also are quite active in our community. Every year we are a big participant in the childrens festival at the University of South Florida. We also have "Field Days" at our site for the Boy Scouts, Big Brothers, as well as handicapped and disadvantaged children. Our club is certainly not unique when it comes to community activities and combined with the over 200 clubs located in the state, we are a small but valuable asset to our state. Many of our

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Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the F.C.C. to carry out its proposals for the 72 - 76 MHz band and to change the status of our use from secondary to primary frequency use thereby insuring that there will not be any frequency interference problems in the future.

Sincerely,

*Katherine Smith*



Dear Sir,

FCC

Request you look into the matter covered in the attached flyer & trust you can do something to prevent the proposed change

I am a R.C. modeler, retired USAF & retired county employee. Most of the R.C. modelers are responsible adults and we must number several hundred thousand USA wide. Many active clubs in the immediate area. This is not a kids 10¢ Toy situation.

Our organizations have worked close with the F.C.C. in a responsible way. Only recently many of us had to buy new radios at \$150 - \$ up to be in line with new FCC requirements. All this equipment would be obsolete, end of flying & would hurt the businesses that depend on us.

Even if we were allotted new frequencies it would be a long time before the commercial people could come up with new equipment.

Hope you can help us in this matter

/fcc/11/27/253

Thank  
Joe X Beers

IMPORTANT INFO - -PLEASE READ AND RESPOND IMMEDIATELY !!!

\*\*\* F.C.C. ISSUES "NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING THAT WILL \*\*\*  
\*\*\*\* HAVE A DRASTIC EFFECT ON AIRCRAFT MODEL FREQUENCY USE !!!!! \*\*\*\*

TO: ALL R/C FLYERS EVERYWHERE !  
FROM: ACADEMY OF MODEL AERONAUTICS & W.P.M.P.A. DIRECTORS  
RE: F.C.C. NPRM - PR DOCKET 92-235

Albert Tejera of our club has brought back from the I.M.S. show an important piece of info from BOB UNDERWOOD of the A.M.A. TECHNICAL DEPT.

I talked to Bob on 1/13/93 and the following info is critical that all r/c flyers become aware of and react accordingly to protect our existing r/c 20 khz spaced frequencies from loss ! Bob has stated that this came about rather quickly and model magazines most likely will be unable to act to notify everyone since the F.C.C.'s date for response from the public is FEBRUARY 26, 1993 !

At the end of '92, the F.C.C. issued a NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULE MAKING (NPRM - PR DOCKET 92-235) that if implemented, will have a profound effect on our existing model aircraft frequencies ! It concerns a massive frequency restructuring in the LAND MOBILE SERVICE that would ADD TWO NEW FREQUENCIES BETWEEN OUR EXISTING CHANNELS AND THE EXISTING COMMERCIAL (PAGER) SERVICES. THIS MEANS WE WOULD HAVE MOBILE OR FIXED USERS WITH ONE WATT OF POWER ONLY 2.5KHZ AWAY FROM MANY OF OUR MODEL FREQUENCIES !

Our radios, under existing 1991 rules, operate with 20khz spacing between r/c channels. Some Commercial pager services also exist between us....only 10khz away. Most receivers operate easily with this 10khz away "interference", but the proposed changes would put a new type of "commercial/non-commercial/public safety" user ONLY 2.5KHZ AWAY....A SPACING OUR BEST EQUIPMENT CAN'T HANDLE !

Why would the F.C.C. do this ? Bob Underwood of the A.M.A. says that this year brings a new "head" of the F.C.C. along with a mostly NEW BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS !

The A.M.A. through their attorney, Ray Kowalski (former chief of the F.C.C. Private Service Bureau) are working on attacking this. Word has it that



JAN 28 1993

JAN. 23, 1993

THE HONORABLE SAM GIBBONS  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

SUBJ: FCC ACTION - NPRM PR DOCKET 92-235

DEAR MR. GIBBONS:

I HAVE BEEN A MODEL AIRPLANE HOBBYIST FOR MOST OF MY LIFE - THE LAST THIRTY YEARS IN RADIO CONTROL. THE ENCLOSED LETTER IS A COPY OF ~~THE~~ ONE I SENT TO THE FCC RAISING MY OBJECTIONS TO THE SUBJECT ITEM WHICH COMES BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON FEB 26<sup>TH</sup> 1993.

I DO NOT THINK IT IS WISE OF THE FCC TO SEEK TO IMPROVE THE OPERATING CONDITIONS OF LAND MOBILE RADIO USERS AT THE EXPENSE OF RADIO CONTROL MODELERS. THE FCC MAY NOT THINK WE ARE AS IMPORTANT AS BUSINESS USERS OF RADIOS BUT WE HAVE A CONSIDERABLE INVESTMENT IN OUR MODELS AND IN OUR RADIO EQUIPMENT. THE HOBBY PROVIDES MANY HOURS OF ENJOYMENT TO THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE LIKE MYSELF AND CONTRIBUTES TO THE ADVANCEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMERCIAL AVIATION INDUSTRY.

PLEASE HELP ME CONTINUE THE SAFE ENJOYMENT OF MY PASTIME BY NOT ALLOWING THE FCC TO CARRY OUT ITS PROPOSALS IN PR DOCKET 92-235.

/fcd/lil/271252

ENCL 1

SINCERELY,

Arthur F. Werner  
ARTHUR F. WERNER  
14022 HALSTEAD CT. #42  
TAMPA, FL. 33613

Jan 23, 1993

FCC  
1919 M ST. NW  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

SUBJECT: NPRM PR DOCKET 92-235

DEAR FCC:

WE WERE ADVISED OF THE SUBJECT ITEM AT  
OUR CLUB MEETING EARLIER THIS MONTH. THIS  
WAS MOST DISTURBING AS IT COMES SO SOON AFTER  
THE 1991 CONVERSION TO NARROW BAND FREQUENCY.

JAN 29 1993

/fcc/il/271254

1-25-93

Harriet D. Parrish  
2304 W. Marquette av.  
Tampa FL 33604

The Honorable Congressman Sam Gibbons;  
Room 2704  
Rayburn Building  
Washington, DC. 20510

Please be advised that the (FCC)  
has issued a Notice of Proposed Rule Making  
N.P.R.M. - PR DOCKET 92-235 which if  
implemented, will have a disastrous  
effect on Radio Controlled model use.

THOMAS J. DURFEE, 7022 Potts Rd. Riverview, FL 33569

Honorable Congressman Sam Gibbons  
Room 2204, Rayburn Building  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: FCC Action - NPRM PR Docket 92-235

January 26, 1993

Dear Congressman Gibbons;

Your taking time to read my concerns over the above referenced proposal by the Federal Communications Commission to restructure Land Mobile Service frequencies at the expense of Radio Control modelers is greatly appreciated.

As I understand the situation, this proposal will insert two new

MAIL: 14153  
TO.: ROB  
FROM: SARA  
DATE: 01 Feb 1993  
TIME: 02:00PM  
SUBJ: LEGIS - FCC

MR. JOHN FRANCIS  
6524 DOVEWOOD PLACE  
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33634

DOES NOT WANT TO GIVE UP FREQUENCIES FROM MODEL AIRPLANES  
REMOTE CONTROL TO MOBILE TELEPHONE

/fcc/1/1/271256

James C. Smith  
7004A Kissimmee St.  
Tampa, FL 33616

January 24, 1993

The Honorable Congressman Sam Gibbons  
Room 2204  
Rayburn Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gibbons,

I am writing you about a proposed rule change under consideration by the F.C.C.. The changes are listed under PR Docket 92-135.

I have been an avid model airplane enthusiast since my father introduced my brothers and myself to the sport when I was eight years old. This activity has proven to be one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. In addition to enjoying all the many facets of constructing and flying model aircraft, the fact that my brothers and dad still get together every Sunday for a day of flying has kept our family close over the years and been a great source of joy for me.

I am also a club officer for the Tampa Radio Control Aircraft Club. Not only are we a valuable source for the monitoring of the many safety aspects relating to our hobby, but we also are quite active in our community. Every year we are a big participant in the childrens festival at the University of South Florida. We also have "Field Days" at our site for the Boy Scouts, Big Brothers, as well as handicapped and disadvantaged children. Our club is certainly not unique when it comes to community activities and combined with the over 200 clubs located in the state, we are a small but valuable asset to our state.

The proposed rule change being considered by the F.C.C. will have a profound effect on the continuation of this wonderful hobby of model aviation. Our radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the F.C.C. wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio frequencies and cause interference to radio control operations. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control model airplanes, only 19 frequencies will be left if these new rules are adopted.

When we fly our model airplanes under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders as well as the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use

of the radio control frequencies. If the number of usable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the F.C.C., the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be reduced.

Please understand that many models have wingspans up to 10 feet and weigh as much as 55 pounds. The models themselves are expensive to build; but to be blunt, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the aircraft. We often fly our models at organized events where hundreds of participants and spectators are present. We need the full use of our entire complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it wise of the F.C.C. to seek to improve the operating conditions of land mobile radio users at the expense of radio control modelers.

The hobby of model aviation is a multi-million dollar industry. We have over 10 hobby shops that are supported by modelers in the Tampa area alone. The attendant rise in the cost of radio equipment that can operate safely under the new proposals will result in equipment prices that will be beyond the means of the average modeler. The new proposals will force thousands of modelers out of the hobby with all the attendant losses being suffered by hobby shops, distributors and manufacturers. In these troubled times, we must not allow the collapse of this wonderful hobby which has served us so well with all the outstanding role models and good deeds performed by its participants.

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the F.C.C. to carry out its proposals for the 72 - 76 MHz band.

Sincerely,

*James C. Smith*